



NT-US035184

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of	:	
Nandkumar RANGNEKAR et al.	:	Patent Art Unit: 3612
Serial No.: 10/740,925	:	Examiner: Patricia Lynn Engle
Filed: December 22, 2003	:	Allowed: January 28, 2005
For: VEHICLE DOOR HINGE ASSEMBLY	:	

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**WITH PETITION FOR ACCEPTANCE THEREOF**

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with MPEP 609 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants bring the references listed on the attached PTO-1449-Form to the Examiner's attention and request that they be considered and made of record in this application. Copies of the non-U.S. patents are attached.

Since this application was filed after June 30, 2003, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office waives the requirement under 37 C.F.R. 1.98 (a) (2) (i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. Patent and each U.S. patent application publication.

Moreover, Applicants hereby petition that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered into the above-identified application and considered by the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application. Enclosed is a check for \$180.00 to cover the petition fee of 37 CFR § 1.17(p).

I hereby certify that each item of information in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was first cited for the first time in any communication from a foreign patent office in any counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of

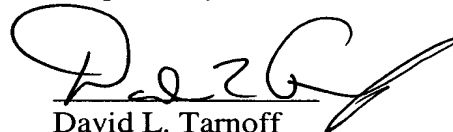
this information disclosure statement. A copy of European Search Report of the corresponding European Application No. 04258025.8 is attached hereto.

\* \* \*

German Patent No. 1078901 appears to disclose a goose neck hinge for a vehicle that is mounted to a body portion of the vehicle.. The European Search Report indicated that the columns 1-5, claims 1-8 and Figures 1-5 were relevant.

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 4-353183 appears to disclose a goose neck hinge for a vehicle that is mounted to a body portion of the vehicle. The European Search Report indicated that the abstract and Figures 1-13 were relevant. An English abstract of this publication is provided to better understand this reference.

Respectfully submitted,



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# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	1
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**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/740,925
Filing Date	December 22, 2003
First Named Inventor	Nandkumar RANGNEKAR
Group Art Unit	3612
Examiner Name	Patricia Lynn Engle
Attorney Docket Number	NT-US035184

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04.

<sup>3</sup> Applicant's unique citation/designation number (optional). <sup>4</sup> See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.01. <sup>5</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>6</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>7</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>8</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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